

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, September 27, 2018 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Amy Hooper, LPN, Vice President
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC
Merry Fort, RN
Tammy Bryant, RN, MSN

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Tara Miller Nursing, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Hooper called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2018.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Fort moved, Bryant seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the executive session on Thursday, September 27, 2018, Hooper declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES

(**LPNI** = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (**RNI**=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Fort moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

LPNI190031 – Send a letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Medication Errors: Detection and Prevention and Documentation: Accurate and Legal.

LPNI190085 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190091 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

RNI190089 – Close the case with no disciplinary action. Floyd abstaining.

RNI190038 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI190028 - Refer to Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose, a fine of \$500 for Falsification of Renewal Application and courses to include: Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

RNI180843 – Send a letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: Accurate and Legal and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

RNI190230 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI180310 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: Accurate and Legal and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

LPNI180355 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Resident Rights, Ethics of Nursing Practice and Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients.

RNI170318 – Proceed with multistate licensure with a Letter of Concern (Action in Another Jurisdiction).

RNI180991 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

RNI170820 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

RNI181229 – Refer to the Office of Inspector General to obtain patient medical records and sent out for a peer review.

RNI181255 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180428 – Send a letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI180152 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI181429 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190233 – Deny the request for reinstatement of license.

LPNI190018 – Refer to Office of Inspector General to obtain a copy of the investigation done by the board of education, obtain a copy of received medication sign in log, request a statement from the person who actually signed in the medication, request a letter of explanation from coworker (other person who assists school nurse) and interview the respondent.

RNI181377 – Refer to the Office of Inspector General for a facility incident report and investigation, patient records, termination notice, interview with facility human resources and nursing supervisor with statements, and interview with respondent with statement. Phipps abstaining.

RNI180831 – Refer to Attorney General's Office and add to the terms of the consent order an additional fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and include courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and Understanding the Disease of Addiction.

LPNI160087 – Deny the reinstatement. May reapply after twenty-four (24) months of continuous, documented sobriety and a mental physical examination within one month of the application.

LPNI180181 – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

RNI160634 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender/indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with documentation of at least one full quarter of compliance of the consent order.

RNI190232 – Have the applicant submit a reentry proposal that meets Board requirements.


RNI160202 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to lift suspension and include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, monthly PEth for twenty-four (24) months and quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, psychotherapy), Substance Abuse Stipulations and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Professional Wrongdoing: Reconciliation and Recovery, and Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace.

RNI170777 – Table pending additional information.

RNI181081 - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 4:18 p.m.


James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**